



USDA
South Dakota
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

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DECEMBER MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, January 23, 2004 – For December 2003, pork production was up significantly and sheep and lamb production was also above one year ago. Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 98.8 million pounds during December. This was up 34 percent from one year ago and up 22 percent from last month, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 467,100 head during December 2003 compared to 333,100 head the year before. Average live weight was 264 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from December 2002. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 466,000 head, which was comprised of 11,500 sows, and 454,500 barrows and gilts.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,300 head during December 2003 compared to 1,200 head a year earlier. Average live weight was 120 pounds, which was unchanged from December 2002. Federally inspected slaughter totaled 1,200 head of lambs and yearlings.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

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